

Rapid Rehousing Pilot

Funding

Building Changes: \$745,000

City of Seattle (HSD): \$460,350 plus approximately \$90,000 in carry-over from 2013.

Seattle Housing Authority: \$198,000

United Way: \$555,000

King County: \$959,697

Agencies

YWCA, Wellspring, Solid Ground, DAWN, Catholic Community Services

Model

Rapid Re-Housing for Families is a pilot program that provides assistance to families residing in emergency shelter to quickly identify and attain permanent housing in King County. Using a progressive engagement approach, agencies assist families with rental and utility debt and move-in assistance, finding permanent housing, working and negotiating with landlords, short-term rental assistance, and making a plan to maintain their housing after the program ends.

Families can also be connected with an employment navigator funded through Building Changes who will assist families in efforts to find employment and increase income. The navigators work with families referred from participating agencies, helping to build families' income through short and long term job training, work placement, flexible funding for work related expenses such as certificates and equipment.

Progressive Engagement

The Rapid Rehousing pilot uses progressive engagement as an effective case management strategy. With progressive engagement, after assessing and interviewing families to determine their strengths and the barriers to housing, the amount of assistance needed to stably house each family is provided, with the understanding that more assistance will be available if needed.

Progressive engagement, combined with flexible funding, empowers case managers and families to strategize together to come up with solutions. This approach keeps programs focused on each family's unique situation, which results in resources being allocated where they are needed, rather than assigning all families the same amount of assistance.

Flexible Funding

Flexible funding for families is an important part of the Rapid Rehousing pilot. Having flexible funding available allows case managers to work with families to develop creative solutions. Allowing case managers the flexibility to provide the exact type of assistance each family needs is a crucial part of a progressive engagement approach.

Learning Circles

Learning Circles occur monthly for the Rapid Rehousing pilot. Participating agencies, funders, Family Homelessness Initiative and Family Housing Connection staff attend. Challenges are discussed, solutions are brainstormed and policy changes are debated. Decision making is done as a team, with the needs of the families rather than the needs of the system at the center of all solutions.

Attachment 2

Data as of 9/2/14

- 200 families enrolled
- 83 families moved into permanent housing
- 49: Average number of days it has taken to move families into permanent housing
- \$924: Average monthly rent families are paying
- 89: Average number of days families have received rental assistance
- Employment navigator data as of 6/24/14
 - served 117 families
 - \$115: average amount provided for work related supplies, assistance and materials (most frequently provided flex fund)
 - \$236 average amount provided for job training and education